Applicant:

Mielke, Dan

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Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) We elaim a A method for manufacturing vehicle hulls, comprising:

applying a protective coating to a bottom mold;

applying a protective coating to a top mold;

applying a bottom skin coat over [[a]] said bottom gel coat protective

coating;

applying a top skin coat over [[a]] said top gel coat protective coating;

applying a bottom layer of bulk fiberglass over the bottom skin coat;

applying a top layer of bulk fiberglass to the top skin coat;

applying an adhesive to a top mating portion of a top bonding surface and to

a bottom mating portion of a bottom bonding surface;

closing the top mold and the bottom mold together, thereby forming a

structural connector out of the adhesive between the top mating portion and the bottom

mating portion and creating a unitary piece including at least one cavity;

forming at least one foam introduction hole through [[the]] an outer surface

of the unitary piece into the cavity in the unitary piece; and

introducing foam into the cavity in the unitary piece through the foam

introduction hole.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a space between the top mating

portion and the bottom mating portion filled by the adhesive is approximately between 1/8"

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and 3/4".

- 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of forming at least one ventilation hole through the outer surface of the <u>unitary</u> piece into the cavity in the <u>unitary</u> piece before the step of introducing foam into the cavity in the <u>unitary</u> piece through the foam introduction hole.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising, after the step of applying a top skin coat and a bottom skin coat, the step of applying reinforcements over the top skin coat and the bottom skin coat.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the reinforcements comprise one of the group of phenolic <u>reinforcements</u> and wood reinforcements.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the adhesive is given time to cure before the step of introducing foam occurs.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 16, further comprising the steps of:

removing air between the bottom gel coat and the bottom skin coat after the step of applying the bottom skin coat over the bottom gel coat; and

removing air between the top gel coat and the top skin coat after the step of applying the top skin coat over the top gel coat[[;]].

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of removing air between the bottom gel coat and the bottom skin coat consists of applying vacuum to the bottom skin coat; and

the step of removing air between the top gel coat and the top skin coat

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mold;

consists of applying vacuum to the top skin coat.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising, after removing the air between the bottom gel coat and the bottom skin coat and the air between the top gel coat and the top skin coat, the steps of:

checking the hardness of the of the bottom skin coat and the top skin coat; and

grinding out air trapped between the bottom skin coat and the bottom gel coat and [[the]] air between the top skin coat and the top gel coat after the top skin coat and the bottom skin coat harden.

- 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of removing air trapped within the skin coat.
 - 11. (Withdrawn) A vehicle hull made in accordance with method 1.
 - 12. (Withdrawn) A vehicle hull made in accordance with method 7.
- 13. (Currently Amended) We claim a A method for manufacturing at least partially hollow vehicle hulls within a top mold and a bottom mold closed together, comprising the steps of:

placing a top hull layer having a top mating surface within a top mold; placing a bottom hull layer having a bottom mating surface within a bottom

placing a structural adhesive on at least one mating surface; closing the top mold and the bottom mold together; and allowing the structural adhesive to cure;

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whereby a structural bond is formed between the mating surfaces by

the cured structural adhesive, whereby a unitary piece is formed within the closed molds.

14. (Withdrawn) A unitary vehicle hull, comprising:

a top hull layer having a top mating surface;

a bottom hull layer having a bottom mating surface;

a structural adhesive placed between the top mating surface and the bottom

mating surface, whereby the structural adhesive forms a structural bond between the top

hull layer and the bottom hull layer, whereby the structural bond increases the strength of

the entire hull.

15. (Withdrawn) The hull of claim 14, wherein the structural bond diminishes a

need for stringers within the hull.

16. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the protective coating applied to the

bottom mold comprises a bottom gel coat; and

wherein the protective coating applied to the top mold comprises a top gel

coat.

17. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the adhesive forming the structural

connector between the top mating portion and the bottom mating portion to create the

unitary piece is preferably a methacrylate compound.